Course Description

This course provides study and practice in methods for success in college. Topics include critical thinking skills, study skills, time and money management, goal setting, career planning, and a review of university resources and regulations.

Course Requirements/Expectations

Following these few rules will help to maximize the SFA 101 experience for you and your classmate:
1) Attend every class.
2) Read the assigned materials and turn in all required work on the day it is due.
3) Participate in individual and group activities and discussions.
4) Treat everyone in the class with respect and courtesy.
5) Demonstrate professional behavior—remember this is first and foremost an academic environment.
6) Cell phones and other electronic devices should be turned off and put away during class time.
7) Ask questions!

No Required Text

All students will receive a SFA 101 Freshman Success Handbook at the beginning of the semester in an online format through the Brightspace D2L platform. Information in the study sheet and handbook will be used for class discussions. Make sure you get them, read them, and understand them. You will also need a class notebook of some type.

NOTE: The Brightspace D2L platform will be utilized extensively for this course. It is important you check the News Feed before each class meeting to be sure you are prepared and in the right place! We will meet in various locations around campus throughout the semester.

To be prepared for class download the Kahoot! App to your device.
Student Expectations & Attendance

• Complete all assignments prior to the date they are due listed on the syllabus and calendar.
• Class attendance is mandatory; therefore, please plan to attend ALL class sessions. Attendance will be taken daily. Every absence that you incur will result in a deduction of 2 points from your final grade.
• Please remember the classroom and the D2L discussion board are academic environments. Thoughtful responses are expected. I reserve the right to lower (or to raise) a grade in reflection of your participation.
• Please refrain from using iPod, cell phones or any other such devices in class.
• Purchase the required text.
• The syllabus is subject to change and rules can change at my discretion.
• Attendance is expected and will be monitored for course credit.

About Course Requirements

• In-Class Activities/Discussions
  Over the semester, you will participate in a series of in-class activities related to class discussion. Specific instructions and/or readings for these activities will be available on d2l. **No activities will be accepted late for any reason.** Most are completed during class time. No partial credit is available for turning in a activity after the due date listed in the Semester Calendar.

• Out-of-Classroom Activities (Class time meetings in locations other than the classroom)
  Throughout the semester we will meet in various places on campus for class meetings, presentations, and/or group activities. Participation in these activities make up a portion of your grade. Location of these activities will be announced in class and on the d2l News Feed prior to class meetings.

• Assignments (Written Reflections)
  Over the semester, you will complete assignments related to your course content specifically target comprehension of materials and personal growth and development. You will find specific due dates for these assignments in the calendar below as well as a dedicated tab within the assigned module providing detailed instructions for the assignment. All assignments are turned in to the available Dropbox on d2l. Assignments may be accepted late; however, you will be docked **TWO points per day** the assignment is late, and must provide written documentation of a medical or legal excuse as permitted by the university. No partial credit will be given for any assignment turned in 10 days after it is due according to the semester calendar due date. If you miss a due date, you are responsible for notifying the instructor in advance (when possible) for excusable absences. It is your responsibility to contact the instructor **within a week of the missed assignment** to schedule a make-up.

• Participation in Student Engagement
  Over the semester you will have the opportunity to participate in several on-campus student involvement activities. You should participate in at least three of these activities in order to receive full credit for this portion of your overall semester grade. Verification of attendance will be the form of a sign-in sheet or photo opportunity.
Program & Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of SFA 101 the student will be informed of the following areas and how they relate to their success:

- Evaluate the significance of academic integrity.
- Construct a strategy for accessing and evaluating information through Steen Library.
- Select campus and community service opportunities in which he/she is interested.
- Apply college classroom learning strategies within this class and others.
- Investigate an overview of university resources.

- Develop personal survival skills.
- Examine SFA history, traditions, and pride.
- Argue the true value of a college education.
- Relate university rules and procedures to his/her personal behavior at SFA.
- Demonstrate working successfully with peers, faculty, and staff.

Other Important Information

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY (A-9.1)**

Academic integrity is the responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

**Definition of Academic Dishonesty**

Academic dishonesty included both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating included but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another person in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one’s own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one’s paper without giving the author due credit. Please read the complete policy at: http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp

**Students with Disabilities**

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004/ 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodations and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information: http://

"Success consist of going from Failure To Failure without Loss of Enthusiasm." -Winston Churchill
| Unit 1 : Personal Responsibility                                                                                           August 26– September 18 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| **Week**                                                                                                                  | **Class Activity/ Assignments (subject to change)**                      |
| **Week 1: August 26 & 28** First Day of Class: Monday, August 26th Syllabus & Class Expectations Wednesday, Aug. 28th **Topic:** Welcome to SFA– Plan For Success! | ♦ Complete the Discussion: Introduction by Friday, August, 30th 11:59pm (CST). (20 points) On D2L  
♣ Post a picture of yourself in the class list (under Communication Tools in the tools bar) by Friday, August 30th 11:59pm (CST). (5 points)  
⇒ WoW Event Participation (Your first opportunity for “out of class” event participation) |
| **Week 2: Sept 2 & 4** **Topic:** Self-Motivation & Engagement in College Life | ♦ Library Research Orientation, September 4th; InfoLab 2 in the Library -class time  
⇒ Holler @ Homer; September 6th; 8pm; Homer Bryce Stadium; Be sure to get your AXE handle! (5 points)  
♣ First-Week Reflection due in Dropbox on/before September 6th |
| **Week 3: Sept 9 & 11** **Topics:** Self-Management | ♦ In-class Activity |
| **Week 4: Sept 16 & 18** **Topic:** Relationship Skills | ♦ “I Checked It Out” Photo Bomb Assignment due September 20th in Dropbox (20 points) |

| Unit 2 : Civic Responsibility                                                                                           September 23- October 25 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| **Week 5: Sept 23 & 25** **Topics:** Getting Involved to Make a Difference | ♦ In-class Activity |
| **Week 6: Sept 30 & Oct 2** **Topic:** Self-Awareness— Avoiding the “Overwhelm” | ⇒ Planetarium; Tuesday, October 29th; 7:00-8:00pm; STEM Building Planetarium  
♦ In-class Activity |
| **Week 7: Oct 7 & 9** **Topic:** Self-Belief | ♦ Social Media and Your Career Development Presentation (location TBA on News Feed in D2L later in the semester) |
| **Week 8: Oct 14 & 16** **Topic:** History & Traditions @ SFA | ♦ In-class Activity  
⇒ OMA Poverty Simulation; BPSC; Friday, October 18th; 9am & 13:30 pm |
| **Week 9: Oct 21 & 23** **Topic:** Effectively Becoming a Life-Long Learner  
SFA HOMECOMING Oct 25th | ♦ “I’ve Found My Niche” Photo Bomb Assignment due October 25th in Dropbox.(20 points)  
⇒ Homecoming Step Show; Thursday, October 24th, BPSC Grand Ballroom; 8pm ($10 at door or presale beginning Oct 15th) |

| Unit 3: Honors Research Project                                                                                           October 28-December 13 |
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| **Week 10: Oct 28 & 30** **Introduction to Honors Research Project** | ♦ Monday, October 28th– Topics introductions  
♦ Wednesday, October 30th– Meet the Expert Meeting |
| **Week 11: Nov 4 & 6** **Topic:** Honors Research Project | ♦ Honors Research Project Work Days Nov 4 & 6!  
♦ Tunnel of Oppression Activity– November 4th; Time TBA |
| **Week 12: Nov 11 & 13** **Week 13: Nov 19-23 Thanksgiving Break** | ♦ Honors Research Project Work Days Nov 11 & 13!  
♦ SFA 101 Honors Research Symposium– November 18th (Time TBA) |
| **Week 15: December 2 & 4** **First Semester Axed!** **Week 16: Finals Week Dec 9-13** | ♦ End-of-Semester Reflection due in Dropbox on/before December 6th (50 points) |

⇒ Opportunities; not requirement  
♦ Graded Assignment